

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



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For more information, contact:
Janet Shimabukuro
(360) 486-2122

Revenue official receives national leadership award

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 18, 2003 — The Federation of Tax Administrators (FTA) announced today that Tremaine Smith, Assistant Director of Audit for the Washington State Department of Revenue, is the recipient of the 2003 FTA Award for Leadership and Service. The award is presented each year to an individual who has shown ongoing and significant service in the administration of state taxes.

The award recognizes Smith's extensive leadership throughout his 25 years of service with the Department of Revenue. Before his recent promotion to Assistant Director of the Audit Division, Smith served for four years as the Special Assistant to the Acting Director. During this time, Smith played an active role in representing the state of Washington on a variety of state, regional, and national sales and use tax simplification efforts, including the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce, Northwest Sales Tax Pilot Project, and the Streamlined Sales Tax Project. He was responsible for providing the governor with tax policy background and similarly provided liaison services to the business community.

He has also provided leadership as an Out-of-State Audit Manager, Field Audit Manager, Program Manager for Taxpayer Services, and Project Sponsor of the Data Warehouse Project, among other duties.

In announcing their choice, judges cited "simply the magnitude of his interstate and organization accomplishments, each of them at the highest level... He stands out."

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Acting Revenue Director Will Rice said of Smith, "Throughout his 25 years of state service, Tremaine has demonstrated an unfailing ability to initiate better ways of doing business and a willingness to take on new challenges. With each challenge, he has offered an innovative solution and followed it through to completion."

Presentation of the award will take place during the FTA Annual Meeting, June 15-18, in Oklahoma City, Okla. The Executive Committee of the FTA Board of Trustees performed the judging.

Washington State also produced one of last year's FTA Leadership Award winners. Gary O'Neil, Acting Assistant Director of Property Tax, was co-winner of the 2002 Leadership Award.

The Federation of Tax Administrators is a nonprofit organization composed of taxation and revenue departments of the fifty states, District of Columbia, and New York City. Its mission is to improve the standards and methods of tax administration.

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